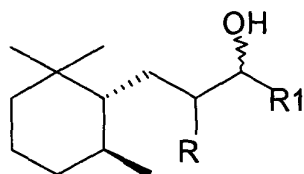


Patent Claims

1. Method for the preparation of a trimethylcyclohexyl-alkan-3-ol containing a proportion of trans isomer of the Formula D



D

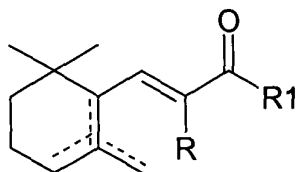
where

R = H, Me, Et, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, iso-butyl or tert-butyl and

R₁ = Me, Et, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, iso-butyl or tert-butyl,

or of a mixture of several such trimethylcyclohexyl-alkan-3-ols,

wherein the corresponding compound(s) of the Formula B



B

in which R and R₁ in each case have the indicated meanings,

is or are catalytically hydrogenated in the presence of a nickel catalyst, preferably of Raney nickel, no catalytically active amounts of copper chromite being present.

2. Method according to Claim 1, wherein the process conditions are so set that a trimethylcyclohexyl-alkan-3-ol or a mixture of several such trimethylcyclohexyl-alkan-3-ols is

prepared which contains a proportion of at least 15 % trans isomer(s) of the Formula C, based on the total amount of trans- and cis isomers prepared.

3. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that Raney nickel is used in an amount of 0.001 to 10 % (m/m), preferably 0.1 to 3 % (m/m), based on the mass of the compound(s) of the Formula B, in which R and R1 in each case have the indicated meanings, which is used.

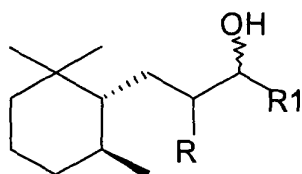
4. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the catalytic hydrogenation takes place in the presence of base, preferably hydroxides, oxides or carbonates of the alkali metals or alkaline earth metals.

5. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the catalytic hydrogenation is carried out at a temperature in the range between 40 and 350 °C, preferably 200 and 300 °C.

6. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the catalytic hydrogenation is carried out under a pressure in the range between 1 and 200 bar, preferably 10-50 bar.

7. Method for the preparation of a perfume composition, with the following steps:

- preparation of a trimethylcyclohexyl-alkan-3-ol containing a proportion of trans isomers of the Formula D



D

where

R = H, Me, Et, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, iso-butyl or tert-butyl and

R1 = Me, Et, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, iso-butyl or tert-butyl,
or of a mixture of several such trimethylcyclohexyl-alkan-3-ols,
in accordance with one of the preceding claims,
- optional isolation and/or purification of the trimethylcyclohexyl-alkan-3-ol or of the mixture,
- mixing an amount of the trimethylcyclohexyl-alkan-3-ol, or of the mixture, that is effective from
the sensory standpoint with one or more conventional perfume constituents.